UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/933
26 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 26 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 26 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, and its annex containing the text of a statement issued on 26 November 1997 by the Revolution Command Council concerning Iraq's willingness to receive two diplomats or experts from each State represented on the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) and five representatives of each State member of the Security Council at presidential palaces and locations.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter, the letter of the Deputy Prime Minister and the statement of the Revolution Command Council to the attention of the members of the Security Council and the States represented on UNSCOM.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Identical letters dated 26 November 1997 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the Revolution Command Council this evening, 26 November 1997, announcing Iraq's willingness to receive two diplomats or experts from each State represented on the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) and five representatives of each State member of the Security Council at presidential palaces and locations which the United States of America claims are being used for the concealment of chemical and biological weapons and materials. The visitors may stay for one week or one month, in accordance with the wishes of each, so that they may discover the true facts and expose the lies and fabrications that have been disseminated by United States officials.

I should like to draw your attention to the fact that the Iraqi side shall provide hospitality to its guests at its own expense. I should be grateful if you would consider this letter and its annex, containing the statement issued by the Revolution Command Council, as a document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister

Enclosure

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Once again, United States officials are discussing the people's palaces, which the great Iraqi people built without imposing colonial rule on other people in order to use their money or take alms from them.

Once again, United States officials have resumed their angry ways, frustrated by the fact that the Iraqi people, who love to build and who are the founders of civilization, have taught them and others how to deal properly with life and have built for themselves, without foreign labour, schools, factories, mosques, churches, dams, canals, rivers, children's nurseries, hospitals for those disabled as a result of United States hostility and the criminal embargo, houses for widows and the needy, colleges and educational institutes, rest homes for older persons, palaces, guest accommodation and official headquarters. The Iraqi people have done this, with the help of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate, in order to bring the aggressors to despair. The real cause of the United States officials' anger and hysteria is our decision to let the despicable ones observe and gather information on the activities and work of the leadership, and our insistence on continuing to build. For there is no truth to their false claims and allegations which state that the leadership, particularly the senior leadership, is hiding chemical and biological weapons in these sites and palaces, and also that those palaces are for Saddam Hussein's exclusive use. Do they think that Iraqis are different from other human beings and that they cannot be affected by chemical and biological weapons and materials? Did the whole world not see thousands of Iraqi men, women and children in these palaces during the recent crisis? How could there be biological and chemical weapons in those places with such crowds present? The United States officials have always lied and they are not ashamed of lying, because they have been brought up to lie for their own purposes and the whole world knows it.

Despite this, in order to expose the lies which emanate from United States officials like balloons that are sent up to see if they will float, and in order to tear the flimsy veil which covers the recklessly dishonest policy of the United States of America, we have decided to invite two diplomats and experts from each State represented on the United Nations Special Commission and five representatives from each State member of the Security Council to visit these palaces and sites for a period of a week or a month, according to their own wishes, so that they can discern the truth for themselves. This will be our answer to the lies and fabrications of United States officials. It will also prevent United States spies from realizing their dream by bragging that they were able to search the people's palaces because the United States of America had made threats or used its special influence within the Special Commission.

The monuments and sites of civilization shall endure, as will the Iraqi people, while the aggressors, the harbingers of all ill fortune, shall continue to oppose civilization and construction.

God is Great.

May the despicable ones disappear.

Baghdad, 26 November 1997